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ABSTRACT

A catalyst and method for performing a Michael addition reaction between a ß-dicarbonyl compound with a cyclic or acyclic enone, where the catalyst comprises a substituted or unsubstituted lanthanum-linked BINOL complex, e.g. a (R,R)-La-linked-BINOL complex (I), are described.

The catalyst is stable in air, is readily separated from the reaction mixtures and may be reused if desired.